"Gandhi" at 10th April, 1981, 5% of net profits have to be credited to cine workers welfare fund; if so, what amount has so far been credited towards this account; and

(b) if no amount has been credited, what are the reasons therefor; and what steps are being taken to get the amount credited to the said fund ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA) : (a) The Co-production and Finance Agreement for the film "Gandhi" executed on 10th April 1981 provides for crediting of 5% of net profits from the film to the Cine Artists Welfare Fund of India. Total amount due to transfer to Cine Artists Welfare Fund is about 10 lakhs Pound Sterling (Rs. 2.91 crores). But no amount has been credited to this fund so far.

(b) Sir Richard Attenborough, one of the participants in the Agreement, has raised certain issues regarding the fund existing in India. While the title of the fund referred to in the Agreement is Cine Artists Welfare Fund of India, the title of the fund in operation in the country since November, 1984 is the Cine Workers Welfare Fund.

Starting of A.I.R. External Service in Telugu

1593. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to start External Services of All India Radio in Telugu; if so, what is the target date for the same and what are the timings; and

(b) what areas of the World are going to be covered by this Service ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA) : (a) Telugu Service has already been started by All India Radio in its external service with effect from 27th March 1990. It is of a duration of 30 minutes and is broadcast from 0415 hours to 0445 hours (IST); and

(b) The service covers east and south east Asia regions, which include Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Kampuchia, Laos, Hong Kong and Burma.

S.T.D. facilities to Ponnuru in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh

1594. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to connect Ponnuru, Bapth, Sattenpalli in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh by S.T.D facility; and

(b) if so, what is the target date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): I (a) Yes, Sir. S.T.D. facility is already available at Ponnuru with access Code 08648.

(b) S.T.D. facility is planned for Bapatla and Sattenapalli during 1991-92 and will be provided subject to availability of equipment.